

REPORT ON INDUSTRIAL WASTE DISCHARGE FROM
INDUSTRIES AT MONSANTO

MONSANTO--Industrial waste discharge

Date-----March 6, 1942

Interviewed--Mr. McCurdy, City Engineer for the Village of Monsanto

Mr. McCurdy wished to inform the Sanitary Water Board of work being done on sewers carrying industrial wastes from the industries in Monsanto to the Mississippi River. He stated that under certain conditions it might be necessary to discharge these wastes to a creek running through a residential area outside of the village limits. If this should happen, the residents in this area might complain to the Board; and, therefore, Mr. McCurdy wanted us to be acquainted with the situation.

Industries located in the village are:

Monsanto Chemical Co.	Federal Chemical Co.
American Zinc Co.	U. S. Chemical Warfare Service
N. Lubrite Refining Co.	Darling Fertilizer Co.
Louis Metals Reclaiming Co.	Union Electric Power Co.
Sterling Steel Corp.	
Midwest Rubber Reclaiming Co.	

The power plant contributes no industrial wastes, but pays practically 60% of the taxes.

The village plans and expects to construct a new sewer parallel to the old one carrying wastes to the river. Wastes will be collected in a pumping station and discharged through this new line which is 57 1/2 X 56 inches cross-sectional area, and which is lined with vitrified tile plates to prevent rapid deterioration from acids.

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Levels are such that when the river stage is less than 15 feet waste will flow by gravity. At present, waste discharge amounts to approximately 1500 g.p.m. but it is expected that this will be increased by 3000 g.p.m. With the increased quantity and a high river stage, it is probable that, when the wastes are being pumped to the river, a rupture might occur in the discharge line. It was predicted that if the river stage reached a 40-foot-gauge reading, rupture might occur. In case of such rupture or in the case of failure of the two pumps that are being provided, it would be necessary to discharge wastes to an open ditch that flows south through the Village of Cahokia and thence to the river.

Several years ago some wastes were discharged to this open ditch flowing south and the industries at Monsanto were sued by those residents living between the villages of Monsanto and Cahokia. At that time the industries were required to pay complainants \$1,000.00. Mr. McCurdy stated that, because of war activities, the industries would not be able to shut down, should the main sewer line become unavailable for discharge of wastes; and that, regardless of complaints received, it would then be necessary to discharge wastes through this ditch draining toward Cahokia. This ditch is kept clean and receives raw sewage from those persons living close to it who would normally be the complainants. It is felt that even though industrial wastes would have a slight odor their discharge to the ditch would be beneficial since the great volume of water would flush settled solids into the Mississippi River.

The industries are financing this new sewer, which will cost approximately \$200,000.00, and the third reading of the bond issue was recently read. It is expected that a contract will be let in April and that work should be started by May 1.

Mr. McCurdy reported that Monsanto Chemical Co. makes regular tests on the wastes passing through the present pump house. He does not know what these tests are or for what purpose they are made. It was stated that the present outfall extends a considerable distance into the river and discharges at a zero river gauge. It is usually under water, and wastes are well mixed with the river water in a short distance.

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Wm. D. Haskerth
Senior Sanitary Engineer

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